

RED-CROSS WAR WORK IN FRANCE HAS WIDE BASIS

Report Shows Vastness of
Relief Between June 1917
and June 1918.

ARMY DEFICIENCIES MET
Organization Has 10,000 Hos-
pital Beds in Use for Amer-
ican Soldiers.

"In general the object of the Department of Military Affairs (of the Red Cross) is to help the allied soldier, and in the case of the United States Army to put ourselves at the disposal of every single individual in it, succoring the wounded, making life more comfortable for the well soldier, and in so joining forces with our organization in America that we can look after, as far as possible, the mental happiness of the soldier by relieving him of any mental troubles which he may have at home.

"In other words, the object is to render to the United States soldier all of the services which the American people had the right to expect from us when they contributed to the American Red Cross. Our organization is planned to perform this duty in the most economical and effective manner.

The above, taken from its account of its first year's work in France, might be called the confession of faith of the American Red Cross. Its story, in so far as it is yet free to tell it, is contained in the report of its War Council made public yesterday. In reading it one must keep in mind that the report deals only with the "first year," between June 2, 1917, and June 2, 1918, and reserves for later publication all account of what it did from the beginning of the year to the present, which marked America's really heavy participation in the world war.

Vastness of Red Cross Work.

But from the report at hand, which takes in only the first of the fighting by Americans, it is clear that the work has contributed a dollar here and a dollar there may learn upon what a vast scale of humanitarian enterprise the money contributed was expended. Now, in addition to backing up the nurses and other workers at the actual fighting front, he or she was in some small way of aid to the maimed, the homeless, the sick, little children and the aged, and the "greatest mother in the world" lightened the lot of the fighters with a thousand big and little attentions and comforts.

The first nucleus of the organization began its overseas work when eighteen members, under the leadership of Major G. M. P. Murphy, sailed from New York on June 8, 1917.

"This date was previous to the sailing of any American troops for Europe and previous to the date of the first draft registration," says the Red Cross report. "The Red Cross at that time had not conducted its campaign for funds and the commission came to Europe for the purpose of being early on the ground and organizing the work while we knew by before it. What that work was to be was only vaguely understood.

"In general terms, it was the feeling of the commissioner and his assistants that our allies had been carrying on the war for approximately three years, that they had been going through a period of hardship never before seen in the world, that it was the desire of the American people to express through the agency of its Red Cross in a concrete and substantial manner its sympathy for the suffering caused by the war and its desire to bear its share of the burden in the future.

Reception in Paris.

"On our arrival in Paris we were received in the most generous and broad minded way by the committee of the American Relief Administration. They stated to us their desire to believe, now America was in the war, that all American effort should be coordinated under one head, and they turned over to the American Red Cross their organization equipment and personnel. This enabled the commission to get started much more than it would have been able to otherwise, and great thanks are due them for their attitude at the time.

"We established our offices at 5, rue Franklin, Paris, and within a few weeks Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Bliss turned over to the Red Cross the distributing service which they had been conducting for the French hospitals since the beginning of the war and the Surgical Dressings joined hands with us as surgical dressings branch of the society.

"Those three moves enabled the commission to begin its French work with a going organization and went a long way toward making its effort effective in the early days.

"Within a few weeks after our arrival we discussed with Gen. Pershing the work which lay before us, and it was his belief and desire that the American Red Cross was the agency through which the American people could, by relieving the suffering of our allies, express its sentiment. He felt that it would be many months before his army would be an effective fighting force and that the Red Cross must during those months carry the American flag in Europe.

"With this idea in view, we organized two departments: one, the department of civil affairs, whose

duty it was to take up all the relief work in France which was not needed for the war; the other department, the department of military affairs, should handle the Red Cross work with both the French and American armies.

"It has been through our organization that the French Red Cross has been able to continue the excellent work which it has done for so long without curtailing, and it is through the Red Cross that the families of the most needy soldiers of the French army have received help sufficient to carry them over some hard places in their lives. Almost every phase of the life in France has been touched and helped.

10,000 Beds Provided.

"As to the American Army, the work has been enormous and is increasing. It has been estimated that the Red Cross would not be expected to put up any hospitals in France. At the present moment the Red Cross has approximately 10,000 hospital beds operating for the American soldier. During one period of about two weeks 18,000 American soldiers went through Red Cross hospitals.

"Millions of dressings have been given out; thousands and thousands of splints to the American Army; supplies such as those mentioned above in large numbers; food, services, the hospital service for the men in France whereby their families can be helped in case of trouble, letters to the families of those who are wounded or killed, and thousands and thousands of articles which the American soldier will never know came from his Red Cross. It has been estimated that I cite an instance of a time when the army was short of ether and was furnished 20,000 tins by the American Red Cross.

"There is nothing spectacular about that sort of service, but it is fundamental in its help to the American soldier, and it has gone on every day in increasing amount.

"Up to the arrival of American soldiers at the fighting front a great part of American Red Cross work in France was devoted to the civil as well as the military sufferers of the country. The scourge of tuberculosis received its early attention, also the reduction of French soldiers rendered almost helpless by their wounds, and the reclamation and care of orphaned and sick children. The report cites this detail as to a part of the aid rendered to men made helpless.

"The American Red Cross was called upon, to help these men, to cheer them by material aid, to educate them, if possible, in new trades, new lines of endeavor in which they could earn a living and become self-supporting once more, hence happy and contented."

Pershing's Army Moves Up.

Ultimately Gen. Pershing's first contingent of regulars, the vanguard of America's great army that was to come into the war, moved from its training sectors on up to the fighting line, and the Red Cross took up the task which "is the very heart of its organization." The report continues:

"When there are American wounded to care for it functions day and night. It is prepared always to rush emergency orders of hospital, medical and surgical supplies to any point where they are needed, either for its own hospitals or to the United States army hospitals. During big night attacks trips to the front with cannon loads of materials are not uncommon, and in recent great battles this work has been the very essence of Red Cross relief.

"The account covers roughly the period up to the beginning of 1918, but takes small account of what was perhaps the Red Cross's greatest accomplishment, namely, the provision it was making for the future. The foresight shown from the beginning did not produce its full effects until the summer of 1918, when in the great emergencies arising from the entry of American troops into active warfare the American Red Cross was able to furnish quickly the hospitalization and supplies without which a large portion of the American soldiers would have suffered greatly.

"With the movement of American troops into more central sectors it became evident to Red Cross officials that there might be a demand for more hospital beds than were available in Paris. Early in May therefore the Red Cross began the erection of American Red Cross Military Hospital No. 5 at Auteluy, intended originally for light wounded and simple medical cases. But by May 20 the capacity of this hospital, composed of Desmoulin tents containing 600 beds, began to be taxed and it was immediately necessary to increase the capacity to 1,000 beds, which was done within a month from the date on which the hospital was started.

"Three Evacuation Hospitals. "Meanwhile work of the most vital importance had been accomplished in the establishment at Evreux, Juilly and Jussy-sur-Morin of three evacuation hospitals. The Beauvais hospital was staffed by American Red Cross personnel, and while admirable speed was shown in getting ready this in-

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RADICALS MAY MEET DEFEAT AT POLLS

Socialists Hope at Best Only
for a Very Small
Majority.

REPUBLIC MONTHS OFF

Bolshevikism Said to Be Con-
fined Chiefly to North
and Coast Cities.

By CHARLES TOWER.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun from the
London Times Service.

THE HAGUE, Dec. 21.—The result of the elections to the National Assembly which are expected about January 19 is regarded as uncertain by all classes in Germany. From opinions of all sorts and conditions of people in western Germany it would appear the Socialists can hope at best, for a very small majority and even they may be defeated.

It is even confirmed that the Socialists do not believe in the possibility of a genuinely Socialist Government and the probable course of events is the extension of an interim of authority to Herr Ebert until the National Assembly establishes a new constitution and arranges for the election of a first President of a republic. This may take weeks or months.

Opinion in western Germany seems to favor the assembly meeting in Berlin because a temporary Government would have to be transferred to Frankfurt if the assembly is held there, and in the meantime Dr. Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg, Spartacist leaders, would be left to wreak havoc in Berlin. Dr. Liebknecht's insane scheme for all around passage is shared by very few of his supporters.

German Bolshevism is mixed. The principal strongholds are Dusseldorf, Hanover, Brunswick and the coast towns. Numerous persons still hope for a revolutionary movement in the Entente countries. They appear to consider a proletarian revolution in France and a republican revolution is fairly hoped for in England. This applies even to non-socialists and business men, the general idea being that a revolutionary Germany will be able to deal on a more equal footing with the Entente countries if the existing constitutional systems are upset.

Major Middle Home From France.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 21.—Major C. J. Biddle of this city, one of the famous American aces in service in France, arrived here to-night, surprising his relatives by reaching home without previous announcement.

SENATE ADOPTS REVENUE MEASURE

Continued from First Page.

as it was the only question before the Finance Committee in all its three months of deliberation in which the party question had been obviated.

"We ought to pass this bill for 1918, and after the fourth of March, when Congress must inevitably be called into extra session, a new revenue bill can be taken up to meet requirements

of the 1920 tax yield.

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and conditions as they exist," Senator Penrose said. "If this method was at violation of all precedents in normal times, certainly, to my mind, it is absolutely without excuse or reason at the present time, when the immediate future is so stored with great events and undefined and undefinable events. The only argument advanced by the Democrats for the 1920 tax provision is that taxpayers are entitled to know what they must pay in 1920, but that the fact that taxes would be reduced was already known, and the methods of taxation cannot be determined at this time."

Borah Upsets Leaders.

Senator Borah (Idaho) upset the Republican leaders by asserting that the whole membership of the party in the Senate had not been taken into the confidence of the Finance Committee when they determined not to continue the fight that had been promised against the dual system of tax levy.

"There is a great deal of mystery about the 1920 proposition from beginning to end," said Senator Borah. "The attitude of the Republican members of the Finance Committee is a mystery to the rest of us. It was distinctly understood for a time and it was published to the country that the Republican members thought it was such a ridiculous thing to do that it would be fought to the close of the session."

Denies Influence of Election.

Senator McCumber asked Senator Smith (Ga.) of the Finance Committee if the proposal for the 1920 levy had come before the Finance Committee before election day.

"It came before them immediately after the election," replied Senator Smith. "I do not know anything about the information about the election and so far as I am concerned the election had absolutely nothing to do with it."

"No one after the middle of October, when both Bulgaria and Austria-Hungary were out of the war and the Germans in full retreat, thought for a moment that the war would last for another year," responded Senator McCumber. "We knew then that the war was going to be over in less than a year, but it never occurred to us at that time that it was necessary to provide for the taxes of 1920, and it was never suggested in any form or shape until after the 6th day of November."

Senator McCumber openly accused the Democratic party with having attempted to take "political advantage" in injecting the 1920 revenue proposal in the bill.

The debate ran into a suggestion by Senator McCumber that the Democrats were trying to avoid an extra session next March in providing for the 1920 tax yield.

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LAND, SEA AND AIR GREETING FOR FLEET 100 Aerial and 600 Harbor Craft to Welcome Fighters.

More than 100 airplanes and dirigibles and 600 harbor craft of every description will join in the official welcome to the homecoming fleet of American warships, which has been serving in European waters, when it churns its way into the harbor at 10 o'clock Thursday morning. American flags fired into the air from floats anchored along the route, massed choruses of Boy Scouts and singing societies, the martial crashing of dozens of bands and the scream of steam whistles are a few of the features planned for the homecoming of victorious fighting craft which the city has ever known.

The fleet will arrive off the port on Christmas day, it became known yesterday through an announcement by Daniel O. Reid, chairman of the executive committee of the Mayor's Committee of Welcome to Homecoming Troops. It will not make its official appearance until the next day, however, when it will be reviewed by Secretary of the Navy Daniels from the Mayflower, the Presidential yacht, which will take up its station off the Statue of Liberty.

The harbor craft flotilla will assemble at 8 o'clock in the upper harbor. After the fleet warship has passed the Mayflower, the latter will start up the North River, closely followed by the police boat patrol, which will have Mayor Hylan and his committee on board. All will encircle the sea fighters after they have dropped their mudhooks off Ninety-sixth street. Immediately afterward the officers of the fleet will board the Mayflower to pay their respects to Secretary Daniels. They will return to their respective craft and the naval force which is to join in the victory parade down Fifth avenue will be landed.

COAL RULES STAND TILL FEB. 1.

Garfield Announces Continuance of Maximum Prices.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—Fuel Administrator Garfield announced today that maximum prices on coal and zone regulations on fuel shipments would not be removed before February 1.

There had been reports recently that all restrictions would be lifted about the first of the year.

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JERSEY MAN IS DEAD IN GERMAN HOSPITAL

Wounds Prove Fatal to Corp.
Beckwith of the Old
Fighting 69th.

COL. DONOVAN RECOVERS

Relatives of T. J. Rhinelander
2d, Reported Killed, Seek
Further Information.

Corporal Charles T. Beckwith, Company I, 165th Infantry—the Old Fighting Sixty-ninth—died of wounds in a German prison camp hospital at Rastatt. An official telegram from Washington yesterday so informed his brother, Harry Beckwith, 6 Genesee avenue, Englewood, N. J. Corporal Beckwith was wounded July 28 and captured. He was 21 years old and was an employee of the New York Telephone Company. At 16 he enlisted in the Twenty-third Regiment, Brooklyn, with which he saw service on the Mexican border. Last October relatives received a letter from him in the German camp. He wrote that his wounds were still keeping him in bed and that the American Red Cross had provided him with a new suit of clothes.

The name of Lieut.-Col. William J. Donovan, one of the idols and heroes of the same regiment, appeared in yesterday's casualty list as severely wounded in action, but a despatch received by THE EVENING SUN from a staff correspondent indicated that Col. Donovan had recovered and was back with his regiment in time to march to the Rhine. He was reported walking with a limp.

Letter Relieves Worry.

Col. and Mrs. Oscar Condie, 86 North Quinlan street, Orange, N. J., have received word that their son, Lieut. Philip H. Condie of Company H, Seventh Infantry, was wounded in action October 24. But they are not distressed by the news, having recently received a letter from the Lieutenant saying that he had recovered and rejoined his command two days after the armistice was signed.

Lieut. Harry T. Folger of Huntington, L. I., is reported slightly wounded. He was attached to the United States aviation forces. He is an alumnus of Indiana University.

Private William Ruppert, whose name appeared on yesterday's casualty

list, died of pneumonia November 29 according to a telegram from the War Department received by his mother, Mrs. Margaret Ruppert, 614 West 135th street. Private Ruppert was drafted in September, 1917. He went to France last April with the 88th Field Artillery. In October he was his mother that he was well and happy and had been in several engagements. He was 28 years old.

Grip Fatal to Cornell Man.

Lieut. Arthur Frederick Cleveland, a Cornell man who before his enlistment was an electrical engineer with the New York Central Railroad, is reported dead of pneumonia in France. He suffered short illness in the St. Michel drive, and had contracted influenza. He died October 8.

Lieut. James H. McManus, Company D, 209th Machine Gun Battalion who was wounded in action by a fragment of shell on October 17, is reported recovering in a Red Cross hospital in Paris.

Relatives of Private T. J. Gable Rhinelander 2d, son of Philip Rhinelander, 18 West Forty-eighth street and a nephew of Thomas Jackson Oakley